

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 VO-03 SCA-01 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 RSR-01 /057 W

----- 128480

R 220950 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6788

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 1187

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, BM

SUBJECT: U NU TRAVEL TO U. S.

REF: A) STATE 96127

B) RANGOON 1173

1. WHILE EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO GO ALONG WITH ISSUANCE OF B-1 VISA TO U NU (REF A), IT NOTES FOLLOWING CONSIDERATIONS ON NEGATIVE SIDE:

A) CERTAIN INFLUENTIAL ELEMENTS IN GUB MAY INTERPRET SUCH ACTION AS EVIDENCE OF U. S. SUPPORT FOR U NU' S ATTEMPTS TO REGAIN POWER IN BURMA, DESPITE OUR CONTINUING PROTESTATIONS TO CONTRARY.

B) WITH REPORTED INDIAN DENIAL OF VISA TO U NU, HIS OPTIONS WERE BEING REDUCED, AND U. S. VISIT COULD GIVE HIM A NEW LEASE ON HIS POLITICAL LIFE (THOUGH WE ARE AWARE OF B-1 VISA TIME LIMITATIONS).

C) THE COMMANDER OF PDP NORTHERN FORCES, JIMMY YANG. B IS ENGAGED IN NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. PDP FORCES HAVE ALSO EFFECTED A WORKING ALLIANCE WITH BURMESE COMMUNIST PARTY (WHITE FLAG) FORCES.

D) REJECTING HIS VISA APPLICATION GIVES USG CHANCE TO
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DEMONSTRATE TO IMPORTANT GUB CIRCLES THAT ANTI- GUB INSURGENTS
ARE NOT WELCOME IN THE USA.

2. ON BALANCE WE BELIEVE FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS ARE OUTWEIGHED
BY FOLLOWING:

A) WHEN AMBASSADOR TOLD GUB FOREIGN MINISTER THAT U NU
PLANNING TO VISIT U. S. HE RAISED NO OBJECTION (REF B)

B) U NU HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS SEVERED TIES WITH PDP.
TRIP TO US WILL PUT THOUSANDS OF MILES BETWEEN HIM AND PDP,
HELPING FURTHER TO DISASSOCIATE HIM FROM INSURGENTS, AND IT MAY
ENCOURAGE HIM TO SEEK THE NON- POLITICAL LIFE OF TEACHER/ LECTURER.

C) DENIAL OF VISA TO U NU, WHOSE PHILOSOPHY OF GOVERNMENT
IS MUCH CLOSER TO OUR OWN THAN IS THAT OF GUB, WOULD BE DIFFICULT
TO UNDERSTAND IN MANY QUARTERS IN U. S. IT WOULD BE INCONSISTENT
WITH U. S. TRADITION OF ALLOWING FOREIGN DISSIDENT LEADERS
FREEDOM TO PURSUE PEACEFUL ACTIVITIES IN U. S.
MARTIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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